

Federal Republic of Nigeria

Agenda Item 16: Space 2030 Agenda.

Mr Chairman

Distinguished Delegation

It is the view of my delegation that securing the future of outer space begets an assured future of our world, for without the space science technology and its applications we would not have been able to study our environment and understand it well enough to seek out means to sustain it. This is why negotiating an agenda and in this particular instance, the Space2030 Agenda is crucial to achieving the development agendas of the UN as well as the long-term sustainability of outer space itself.

The Space2030 agenda promises a way in which outer space is considered and lays out a vision to enhancing the use of space science and technology for the attainment of the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.

Mr Chairman,

My Delegation would like to stress the need for the exploration and uses of outer space exclusively for peaceful purposes and in this context emphasizes the importance in preventing the weaponization of the outer space and to preserve peace and security to the benefit of humankind.

Mr Chairman,

Nigeria's Venture into Space is not a mere adventure or coincidence, but in pursuit of new strategies and solutions to numerous problems targeted at

enhancing the quality of life of the common man. Such ventures include the way we manage our resources and environment as well as our social lives. It was indeed a deliberate and strategic approach to tackle the numerous socio-economic problems facing the Nation.

Mr Chairman,

You may wish to recall resolution 61/110 of 14 December 2006 when the United Nations General Assembly agreed to establish the "United Nations Platform for Space-based Information for Disaster Management and Emergency Response - UN-SPIDER" as a new United Nations programme, with the goal to "Ensuring that all countries and international and regional organizations have access to and develop the capacity to use all types of space-based information to support the full disaster management cycle".

Mr Chairman,

Nigeria currently hosts the West and Central African Regional Support Offices for the implementation of the UN-SPIDER programme. The UN-SPIDER Regional Support Office in Nigeria (RSO) has continued to perform its duties in accordance to its stipulated mandates. Some of the activities carried out by the RSO in the last 3 years include:

- a. Institutional strengthening mission to Cameroon (15th to 19th July, 2019).
- b. International Training Programme (5th to 10th September 2019) and the United Nations International Conference On Space-Based Technologies for Disaster Risk Reduction - "A Policy Perspective" (11th to 12th September 2019) Beijing, China.

C. International Conference "Space-Based Solutions for Disaster Management in Africa: Challenges, Applications, Partnerships" (6th -8th November 2019) Bonn Germany.

d. International Charter: Space and Major Disaster Value addition for Niger, Niamey (17th October 2020)

e. 10th Annual UN-SPIDER Regional Support Offices Coordination Meeting (4th -5th November 2020), Vienna, Virtual meeting.

f. UN-SPIDER Virtual International Expert Meeting "Space-based Solutions for Risk and Disaster Management in Africa" Organized by the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs through its United Nations Platform for Space-based Information for Disaster Management and Emergency Response (UN-SPIDER) and the Centre for Remote Sensing of Land Surfaces (ZFL) of the University of Bonn (30th June – 2nd July 2020) - Bonn, Germany.

g. The 11th Annual UN-SPIDER Regional Support Offices coordination Meeting (12th – 13th October 2021) – Virtual meeting

h. UN-SPIDER / ZFL Regional Virtual Expert Meeting for Southern Africa "Space-based Solutions for Disaster Risk Management and Emergency Response" (13th -15th July 2021).

i. UN-SPIDER/NASRDA/NEMA/ZFL National Virtual Expert Meeting "Space-Based Solutions for Disaster Risk Management and Emergency Response in Nigeria" (13th to 15th April 2021).

Mr, Chairman,

Arrangements are in top gear for UN- SPIDER RSO for West and Central Africa located in Nigeria to host in collaboration with UNOOSA, training for Project Managers whom are expected to activate the International Charter: Space and Major Disaster when the need arises, in September, 2022.

Finally Mr. Chairman,

Nigeria would like to express its appreciation for the support received from development partners in the area of enhancement of capacity building. It should be noted that technical international cooperation has helped developing countries fight poverty, create jobs as well as expand their technological base. The application of space technology is indeed central to the socio-economic development of States and in this regard, Nigeria would like reiterate its position for equitable access to space domain for all actors regardless of the level of advancement in space technology.

Thank You Mr Chairman.